

Application No. 10/649,635

520.43063X00

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 20, with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 2 shows a state of volume distribution that arises from a storage configuration change. ~~Fig. 2A~~ The left side of Fig. 2 shows a reliability/performance level distribution of a volume before the configuration change. Eighteen volumes are divided and distributed into three levels of "High", "Mid", and "Low" respectively from the viewpoint of performance and reliability. Six volumes are classified evenly into each level. Subsequently, when a high performance and high reliability storage device is developed and such a situation as the storage device is used by this system, that is, when a change occurs in the system equipment configuration that arises from the expansion of the storage device, the distribution of storage used every specifications varies. Accordingly, the volume classified into "High" at a point of time before configuration change as shown in ~~Fig. 2A~~ will also be classified into "Mid" sooner or later after configuration change as shown in ~~Fig. 2B~~ Fig. 2.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

For example, when nine more volumes are extended (shaded portion) as shown in ~~Fig. 2B~~ the right side of Fig. 2 from 18 volumes as shown in ~~Fig. 2A~~ the left

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side of Fig. 2 at the beginning, in this embodiment, the resetting of a level is performed to redistribute a total of 27 volumes to which these nine volumes were added.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

Then at this stage, the performance table 73, the reliability table 75, the total volume table 76, and the volume table 87 per application have already been updated in accordance with the flowchart of Fig. 8. That is, the information used for forming the distribution in which a new volume extended in a system is also contained as shown in ~~Fig. 2B~~ the right side of Fig. 2 is held, but a new threshold is not decided yet.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

For example, the system configuration is changed and the number of volumes is assumed to be set to 27 as shown in ~~Fig. 2B~~ Fig. 2. In this case, if both the performance and reliability levels are assumed to be specified at three levels of "High", "Mid", and "Low", nine volume each will be included in each level. Accordingly, the threshold (that is, upper limit value) between "High" and "Mid" of the

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performance level is decided so that the value of the record (that is, volume) of the performance level 783 column of the volume table 78 per application can be a boundary in the tenth record value from the top. Further, the threshold (lower limit value) between "Mid" and "Low" is decided so that the value of the record of the performance level 783 can be fixed as the boundary in the 18th record value.